

Vax Facts

E-NEWS FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA IMMUNIZATION BRANCH

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Welcome!

Thanks for subscribing to Vax Facts, the North Carolina Immunization Branch's e-newsletter. We hope this will help us stay connected to immunization providers across North Carolina. Feel free to share this document with whomever you choose and encourage your colleagues to subscribe. Sign up instructions are at the end of this e-newsletter.

What's Going on at the Immunization Branch?

2012-2013 Influenza Update

****Information provided is general influenza vaccine information and may not apply to state-supplied vaccine. Please review [NCIP influenza vaccine coverage criteria](#) closely.****

Fall season is here, and unfortunately so is the flu. Although this is the time of year in which influenza activity traditionally increases, the impact of flu season can be greatly reduced through education and vaccination. Below are some important points and reminders for the 2012-2013 flu season.

Recommendations

- CDC recommends that everyone six months and older get an annual influenza vaccine.
- All health care workers need an influenza vaccine. Be sure to get your vaccine and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

2012-2013 Influenza Vaccine

The 2012-2013 seasonal influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere is made from the following three vaccine viruses:

- A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
- A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2)-like virus;
- B/Wisconsin/1/2010-like virus (from the B/Yamagata lineage of viruses).

While the H1N1 virus used to make the 2012-2013 flu vaccine is the same virus that was included in the 2011-2012 vaccine, the recommended influenza H3N2 and B vaccine viruses are different from those in the 2011-2012 influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere.

2012-2013 Influenza Vaccine Options

In addition to the traditional seasonal flu vaccine available for people 6 months and older, a nasal spray influenza vaccine is available for non-pregnant, healthy people between 2 and 49 years of age, and a high dose flu vaccine is available for people 65 and older. An intradermal flu vaccine, which uses a needle that is 90 percent smaller than the regular flu vaccine is also approved for people 18 to 64 years of age.

2012-2013 NCIP Influenza Vaccine Distribution

- A total of 605,000 doses were made available to The N.C. Immunization Program (NCIP), up from last year's total of 550,000.

We still have several influenza vaccine presentations available for the 2012-2013 influenza season. Providers may continue to order additional influenza vaccine until supplies have been exhausted. Please see the memo dated 7/10/12 for more information.

The following presentations are still available:

- 0.25 mL Pre-filled Syringes (6 months to 35 months)
- 0.5 mL Pre-filled Syringes (36 months to 18 years)
- Multi-dose vials (6 months to 18 years)
- FluMist Nasal Sprayers (2 years to 18 years)

Annual Child Care Immunization Reports – Due December 1

Attention Providers: Local health departments should be receiving childcare immunization reports from the child care facilities in your county. North Carolina law requires that all licensed child care facilities submit an annual immunization report. As a reminder, be sure to give parents a copy of their child's vaccine record to provide to the child care facility. Click [here](#) to view and print the report.

New HPV Vaccine Brochure for Boys

The IB is pleased to offer a new brochure on our website entitled "What you need to know about HPV Vaccination for Your Son." The brochure was developed by students at Duke University, and is available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Coming in December – National Influenza Vaccination Week

This year, National Influenza Vaccination Week will be held from December 2-8. Be sure to check out the IB website for upcoming information and resources as they become available.

Immunization Branch Welcomes New Employee

We would like to welcome Lorri Taylor to the Immunization Branch. Lorri will be working in the field as a Regional Nurse Consultant. Welcome Lorri!

Kudos!

A staff member from the Immunization Branch recently took her child to **Blue Ridge Pediatrics** for an annual influenza vaccine, and was very impressed to see that the staff was fully in compliance with our recently changed coverage criteria.

News You Can Use

CDC Lists Changes in Recommendations for Vaccine Storage and Handling

[The Interim Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidance](#) is a brief summary of changes in recommendations for vaccine storage and handling equipment. This guidance is intended for use by all public and private sector providers.

World Pneumonia Day

World Pneumonia Day is observed every year on November 12. To learn more about this effort, click [here](#).

Most Current VISs

As of Nov. 1, the most recent versions of the [Vaccine Information Statements](#) (VIS) are as follows:

DTaP/DT	5/17/07	MMR	4/20/12
Hepatitis A	10/25/11	MMRV	5/21/10
Hepatitis B	2/12/12	PCV13	4/16/10
Hib	12/16/98	PPSV	10/6/09
HPV – Cervarix	5/3/11	Polio	11/8/11
HPV – Gardasil	2/22/12	Rabies	10/6/09
Influenza (inactive)	7/2/12	Rotavirus	12/6/10
Influenza (live)	7/2/12	Shingles	10/6/09
Japanese encephalitis	12/7/11	Td/Tdap	1/24/12
Meningococcal	10/14/11	Typhoid	5/29/12
Multi-vaccine (VIS) (for 6 vaccines given to infants/children: DTaP, IPV, Hib, Hep B, PCV, RV)	9/18/08	Varicella	3/13/08
		Yellow fever	3/30/11

Note:

The first section of the Meningococcal VIS (dated 10/14/11) was changed slightly to harmonize the language describing meningococcal disease complications with language in the ACIP recommendations. No other changes to the VIS were made, the edition date will not change, and current stocks of the VIS needn't be discarded. (9/14/12)

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